Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-25 (Canceled)

26. (Currently Amended) A method of controlling a network ~~control~~, said network comprising:

a first set of two or more network elements and a second set of one or more network elements; two or more of said first elements and one or more of said second elements having an end point element of said network which hosts an agent; and

a policy controller; said method comprising:

collecting real-time ~~operation~~ operational information relating to attribute values at two ~~on one~~ or more agents from said first set of two or more network elements ~~of a network~~ which host agents;

receiving said real-time operational information relating to said attribute values at said policy controller from said two or more agents from said first set;

selecting a policy, without human intervention, based on said real time information relating to said attribute values in said policy controller to be implemented by at least one of said second network ~~element~~ elements hosting an agent, ~~different from the first network element,~~ responsive to the collected real time information from said policy controller ~~the one or more first network elements, the at least one second element including an end point element of the network and hosting an agent, and enforcing the selected policy on the agent hosted by the at least one second network element~~; and

enforcing said selected policy on said at least one of said second set of network elements through said agent hosted thereby.

27. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein collecting real-time ~~operation~~ operational information comprises collecting information on ~~operation~~ operational problems.

28. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 27, wherein collecting real-time ~~operation~~ operational information comprises collecting information on applications that do not operate or operate slowly.

29. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 27, wherein collecting real-time ~~operation~~ operational information comprises collecting information on system or application crashes.

30. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein collecting real-time ~~operation~~ operational information comprises collecting information on software applications installed or running on the network elements.

31. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein collecting real-time ~~operation~~ operational information comprises collecting information on the communications between elements of the network.

32. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 26, wherein selecting the policy to be implemented comprises selecting a policy relating to a software to be installed on the second network element.

33. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 26, wherein selecting the policy to be implemented comprises selecting a policy relating to a software to be uninstalled from the second network element.

34. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 26, wherein selecting the policy to be implemented comprises selecting a policy relating to preventing installation of a software on the second network element.

35. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 26, wherein selecting the policy to be implemented comprises selecting responsive to a determination that a group of network elements having a common problem have installed thereon a specific software application or combination of software applications.

36. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 26, wherein selecting the policy to be implemented comprises selecting a policy which allocates network resources.

37. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 26, wherein the policy is, elected implemented within less than 60 minutes from the collecting of the information.

38. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26, wherein collecting the ~~operation~~ operational information is performed repeatedly.

39. Cancel Claim 39

40. Cancel Claim 40

41. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim ~~40~~ 49, wherein the ~~processor~~ policy controller is adapted to find, for a group of network elements having a problem, a combination of attribute values that correlate with the problem to at least a predetermined degree.

42. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim ~~40~~ 49, wherein the ~~processor~~ policy controller is adapted to find, for a group of network elements having a problem, a combination of attribute values that appears only on the network elements having the problem.

43. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim ~~40~~ 49, wherein the ~~processor~~ policy controller is adapted to collect for at least one network element, a plurality of snapshot records of the network element at different times.

44. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim ~~40~~ 49, wherein the ~~processor~~ policy controller is adapted to verify that each network element belongs to the network before collecting information from the network element.

45. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim ~~40~~ 49, wherein the processor is adapted to find groups using a k-clustering or hierarchy clustering method.

46. (Newly Presented) A method as defined in Claim 26 in which an aggregator is connected to said policy controller; said method in which:

said receiving said real-time operational information relating to said attribute values is done at said aggregator and/or said policy controller.

47. (Newly Presented) A system according to claim 49, wherein the policy controller is adapted to collect for at least one network element, a plurality of snapshot records of the network element at different times.

48. (Newly Presented) A system according to claim ~~49~~, wherein the policy controller is adapted to verify that each network element belongs to the network before collecting information from the network element.

49. (Newly Presented) A system of controlling a network, said network comprising:

a first set of two or more network elements and a second set of one or more network elements; two or more of said first elements and one or more of said second elements having an end point element of said network which hosts an agent; and

a policy controller in which ;

real-time operational information relating to attribute values at two or more agents is collected from said first set of two or more network elements which host agents;

said real-time operational information relating to said attribute values is received at said policy controller from said two or more agents from said first set;

a policy is selected, without human intervention, based on said real time information relating to said attribute values in said policy controller to be implemented by at least one of said second network elements hosting an agent, responsive to the collected real time information from said policy controller; and enforcing said selected policy on said at least one of said second set of network elements through said agent hosted thereby.

50. (Newly Presented) A system as defined in Claim 49 in which also includes an aggregator which is connected to said policy controller; which receives said real-time operational information relating to said attribute values as well as or instead of said policy controller.

51. (Newly Presented) A method according to claim 26, wherein the policy controller is adapted to maintain for at least one network element, a plurality of snapshot records of said real-time operational information to have a record of changes in said operational information for use in selecting said policy.

52. (Newly Presented) A method according to claim 46, wherein the policy controller and or aggregator is adapted to maintain for at least one network element, a plurality of snapshot records of said real-time operational information to have a record of changes in said operational information for use in selecting said policy.